

HeadQuarters 154th Regt N Y Vols
Lookout Valley near Chattanooga Tenn
Sunday Evening Jan 17 1864

Dear Norman,

Your Letter and Paper of the 9th came to me to day. is it now nearly 9 O Clock and as I do not feal like going to bed directly I thought I might just as well write you a few lines now as to wait longer, but I do not know as I can write any thing that will be interesting to you. But knowing that I am ever anxious to hear from you and thinking it is so with you. Your gess was right as to your letter finding us in Winter Quarters for we have splendid Quarters this winter as good as can be made in the Army, as we all have good Log Houses. we have been in this our presant Camp about 5 weeks. We have been troubled some about obtaining rations on the 1st 2nd & 3rd we had nothing but it is much better now as rations are coming quite regular but do not get much in the Vegetable line. it has been quite cold here for this country, had a verey little snow twise. We have a great deal of wind. there was a man frozen to death here about a week agoe. he was reported as being drunk. but the weather has been fine for three days past. I am here alone in the Regimental Quarter Masters Department this Winter as the Quarter Master has been detailed to take charge of the Corps Transportation. so you see I am kept quite busie most of my time. You say you hear that you are to come into this Western Army I hope not on your account, for it is a hard Army to be in. Every man of this Hookers Army would like to go back to Virginia or go home. but if we have got to stay in the Army the rest of our time we had rather it would be with the Potomac Army. I hope with you as you say that we may both be permitted to live to get home again all right and have a good hand shake over our Soldiering. when I look back and think how long we have been in the Army of the maney marches we have made of the verey many hardships & Exposuars we have encountered and come to think that our time is only about half out, I must admit it looks like a long time & dark, and that I get almost discouraged but I hope for the best. the Future only knows what it has in store for us. there is one thing I do know that is if I do not live to searve my time out and get home I shall be a wiser and I hope a better man. I shall know enough not to enlist again. I would like to see the man who would dare to say come reinlist & be a Vetran for I am Vetran enough now to suit my fancy- but I must stop writing this for you will think I am discouraged now. I had a letter to day from Warren & Harvey. Harveys folks are all well. Warrens folks are all well and also my Folks. Warrens wife has just lost a Brother a fine fellow with the Heart Disease. I had a letter from Wallis a few days agoe and one from Martain(?) Rackert. Wallis wrote the 1st from Buffalo the Wind was blowing the water from the lake up into the City. Mortamer is at Cotton Factory Hospital Harrisburgh and will get his discharge soon. but it is getting so late that I must close. George has left Harvey and gone home. it is verey

sickly there in Cherry Creek a little place about the size of Leon and only Four Miles from there they are buiring from one to three a day. We do not much expect that this Army will move again in some time but it is the report that this Corps has got to march above Chattanooga to guard the Rail Road. if any part has to move it will be this Corps shure as we have had to do the dirty work for eather Army so far. but I must close for this time I do so by saying that I am well as I never enjoyed better health in my life than this fall & Winter I hope this will find you the same.

I am as ever your most
unworthy Friend

Newton A Chaffe

Q M Department

154th Regt N Y V

1st Brig 2nd Div 11 A Corps

Army of the Cumberland

Via Nashville Tenn